

Minutes of the Concordia Council on Student Life (CCSL) held 2 October, 1992, 12:00 noon, Senate Chamber, Loyola Campus.

Present: D.L. Boisvert, Chair (DLB); B. Counihan (BC); K. McDonald (KM); S.M. Graub (SMG); A. Kerby (AK); N. Torbit (NT); R. Côté (RC); B. Litner (BL); T. Nicolas (TN); C. Nero (CN); K. Jensen (KJ); K. Lowther (KL); S. Samuel (SS); J. Chegrinec, secretary (JC).

Absent: P. Côté; H. Farias; H. Kirk; A. Christopoulos; M. Cinquino.

1. **Remarks from the Chair:** DLB called the meeting to order announcing that quorum was established. A welcome was extended by the Chair to the members, who were then advised that a copy of the authority and mandate of CCSL had been distributed. The importance of CCSL as a parity committee composed of Student Services professionals and students was stressed. **CN requested, and the Committee agreed unanimously, that the 4 December meeting begin at 11:30 instead of 12:00.**
2. **Introduction of Members:** Members introduced themselves and DLB pointed out the inclusion of the list of members in the package which was distributed prior to the meeting. DLB indicated the vacancy yet to be filled by the Student Services' staff members; ballots have been distributed. Corrections to the membership list were noted.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** DLB requested the inclusion under item 9, Other Business, of the "Advisory Search Committee for the Director of Recreation and Athletics"; and "Follow-up to August 24th". TN, under item 8, Open Discussion, requested the inclusion of "Constitutional Debate".

On a motion by B. Counihan, seconded by R. Côté the agenda for the 2 October meeting of CCSL was approved.

4. **Approval of the Minutes of 22 May:** BC requested a correction on page 2, 4th paragraph -- should read (...that it be 50% or more of a particular line item...).

On a motion by C. Nero, seconded by A. Kerby, the minutes of 22 May 1992 were approved.

5. **Business Arising from the Minutes:** The previously requested report on the CUSA Housing Bank was tabled for discussion. RC found the report very informative, suggested that more details on usership would be helpful. DLB informed members that an annual report was to be filed for both the CUSA Housing Bank and the Job Bank. BC stressed the importance of the bulletin board which is a major service and should be emphasized in the report.

6. Planning and Resources Committee: Last year Council established the Planning and Resources Committee. A year-end report was tabled by Co-Chair R. Philip along with a mandate and composition. The Chair asked for any comments on the report - none were forthcoming.

Composition - the membership consists of a majority of student representatives; the Co-Chairs will be one Student Services Director and one student. S.M. Graub will assume the Co-Chair position and N. Torbit was proposed as the second Director on the Committee. **Agreed.** Student members are as follows: C. Nero, Co-Chair; T. Nicolas; K. Jensen; M. Cinquino; H. Kirk as the undergraduate representatives and K. Lowther as the graduate representative. **Note: It was agreed that 1 out of the 6 student representatives will always be a graduate student.** One staff or faculty member: this position will be decided upon once the staff vacancy is filled.

It was agreed that the Planning and Resources Committee will become a standing item on the agenda of CCSL.

The Chair was reminded that the item, Directors' Reports, was missing from the agenda. This item was inserted at #9.

7. New Business: Charter of Student Rights: **It was moved by BC and seconded by KL that Council receive the report.** A discussion followed on the request of Senate to CCSL to consider the proposal forwarded by the Graduate Students' Association to the Senate Steering Committee. **A motion was moved by CN and second by TN that a working group be formed to examine the proposal and report back to Council. Motion carried.** The working group will consist of the Dean of Students (BC), as Chair, three (3) students, one (1) faculty member and (1) representative from Advocacy and Support Services. BC will ask Dr. S. Carter to represent the faculty on this working group. The working group will table its report at the December meeting of Council.

8. Open Discussion: This item of the agenda had been introduced at the first meeting during the past academic year. The Chair requested feedback from Council on whether or not they felt it was a beneficial addition. It was agreed that a number of issues of concern could be aired within this forum and that it should remain a standing agenda item. **Student Life Issues:** During the following discussion various issues were commented upon, including academic credit; student representation on University committees; and, the effect of the GPA on student records.

CN suggested that, following an internal audit on the number of departmental councils that have student representatives, Council make a formal recommendation to Senate that every department should have students on their departmental council. Planning and Resources Committee will examine this issue.

DLB informed CN that Counselling and Development were examining the issue of students in academic jeopardy; included in this was the effect of the GPA on students. SMG, and her personnel, have been meeting with students since June. One of the main issues of concern is that not enough is known about GPA changes. DLB suggested that the Planning and Resources Committee could also examine the issue of the GPA.

DLB reminded Council that last year the Planning and Resources Committee identified academic advising as a crucial issue of concern to students.

BC will report back to Council at the December meeting regarding para-academic credit.

CN inquired about the status of the Report on the Task Force for Part-Time Students. **DLB indicated that this will be an item on the next agenda.** RC informed Council that some of the recommendations of the Task Force have already been implemented.

Constitutional Debate: TN asked Council to discuss ways and means of informing the community about the issues related to the constitutional debate. CN advised that CUSA had ordered 2500 packages of the Charlottetown Accord to be distributed. BC informed Council that Premier Bourassa will be at Concordia on 15 October. TN suggested that the community had enough experts on staff to intelligently explain the Accord. It was agreed that AK would assist TN in organizing an information session under the auspices of CCSL, if required.

9. **Other Business:** a) **Advisory Search Committee, Director of Recreation and Athletics:** DLB tabled the proposed composition of the Committee; he informed Council that it was hoped a permanent Director could be appointed by 1 June 1993. The Chair asked that it be noted that the composition was one of parity between students and non-students. **AK moved that the composition be accepted, seconded by CN. Motion carried.** CUSA and GSA will notify DLB of their representatives. The nomination process for the other members will proceed.

b) **Follow-up to 24 August:** Goals and objectives were tabled by DLB who provided background information. The Student Services Directorate were concerned about what programmes should be instituted as a result of the events of 24 August. The goal was to examine the larger issues that need addressing, including the issue of disruptive behaviour. It was decided to bring the issue to Council for their input and recommendations. CN asked that the community be informed on emergency procedures. There was a general agreement that students did not have access to safety information on fire drills, evacuation, emergency responses, etc. It was suggested that Norman

Lanthier, Fire Safety Officer be invited to address Council, and that articles could be printed in the student papers.

DLB inquired if Council considered the objectives appropriate and attainable. It was agreed they were, and a discussion followed on various methods of implementation. Along with focus groups and workshops, it was suggested that a Town Meeting type of format may be useful. It was agreed that Student Services staff would follow up on the suggestions.

- c) **Directors' Reports: Recreation and Athletics:** KM outlined areas that the department is currently developing, i.e., communications strategy and re-organization; different approach with football training, involving working sessions discussing sexual harassment and academic grade points; addressing a long-standing need for academic support for athletes; working with coaches to identify student athletes in academic jeopardy. KM also mentioned a 3 to 5 year marketing plan to aid in generating needed revenue; \$300,000 has to be raised this year. Council was reminded that it was Home Coming Weekend and members were encouraged to attend.

Health Services: NT advised that a major initiative of Health Services will be the expansion of the health educator role. Other issues of importance were: The World's Aid Day; educational programmes on alcohol; the participation of Health Services in the Student Services Festival. On the clinical side the department has been extremely busy having dealt extensively on a personal level with the fallout of 24 August. The Sexual Assault Committee has yet to meet this academic year; a professional development session has been held involving staff activity to examine "where we've been and where we're going".

Dean of Students: BC informed Council that in June a special orientation for student leaders was initiated that received a good response; the 2nd phase of Concordia's orientation was held with approximately 12,000 attending over 4 days; a list from the CCSL sub-committee on student projects will be distributed at the next meeting; due to popular demand, the inexpensive wordperfect classes are being repeated - 4 classes are already full to capacity.

Counselling & Development: SMG updated Council on her department which is currently involved in its peak season. The integration of CEC and C&D is complete and operates under the name CAPS (Career & Placement Service). CAPS is now involved in re-orienting its philosophy, re-training and re-organizing. CAPS also has a student employment opportunity workshop, and is working on increasing the employability of harder-to-place students, such as Fine Arts graduates.

Follow up work continues as a result of 24 August - numerous one-on-one sessions have been held, as well as group discussions and 8 forums held for

Engineering students.

As mentioned earlier, C&D is involved with students in academic jeopardy. SMG indicated that Dr. S. Carter, Mr. B. Smart and Mr. R. Martin have been very helpful in initiating the programme. This year student retention and interface with faculty will be a priority as well as building a link with native students.

Advocacy & Support Services: International Students - held own Orientation session; working with immigration; concern about international women and attempting to match them up; examining health care needs.

Legal Information - has held six outreach sessions; in the process of examining the future of the unit.

Women's Centre - involved in projects on violence towards women, single women, single women with children, and the art show.

Disabled Students - an increase of 40 new students has raised the workload volume resulting in the hiring of a new staff member.

Campus Ministry - involved with the follow-up to 24 August and First Nations' activities.

AK advised that the 1st meeting of the Task Force on Lesbian & Gay Life will be 12 October.

Financial Aid and Awards: RC reported that they are still in their old premises; move expected in November. The Induction Reception and Undergraduate Awards Ceremony was held 23 September. In regards to student loans and bursaries, since the government has released assistance on time and met the amounts promised, less pressure has been put on for emergency loans. Financial Aid is involved in lobbying efforts to change the disbursement of assistance - next winter 65% will be released in January and 35% in March, which it is hoped will decrease the reliance on emergency assistance. Workstudy programme doing well; \$120,000 seed money has been received, the programme is at capacity. 200 needy students have found employment on campus which will help defray their expenses. RC distributed the Guide to Undergraduate Awards and Financial Aid. RC reported on Orientation as the out-going chair; Orientation will now be taken over by BC.

DLB briefly discussed the new Student Services' Logo; he also informed Council of the portfolios, apart from their own areas, that each Student Services Director holds.

10. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of CCSL will be 6 November 1992, Loyola Campus, AD - 131, 12:00 p.m.
11. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.